

SPORTS

Chiefs dominate Broncos with forced turnovers, field goals 1B



VOLUME 138, No. 44
STAY CONNECTED [KANSASCITY.COM](#)

[FACEBOOK.COM/KANSASCITYSTAR](#)
[TWITTER.COM/KCSTAR](#)

KEEPING YOU
CONNECTED

TUESDAY OCTOBER 31 2017

\$2 Partly cloudy
43°/30° See 10B

THE KANSAS CITY STAR.

KANSASCITY.COM

Sprint merger reported close to unraveling

BY MARK DAVIS
[mdavis@kcstar.com](#)

Conflicting reports Monday left employees, customers and others scratching their head about whether Sprint and T-Mobile still want to merge. Two unconfirmed reports Monday said Sprint's long awaited merger with rival T-Mobile is about to unravel, but a third said otherwise. Hanging on the outcome is the future of 6,000 Sprint headquarters jobs in Overland Park, the business the company does with local vendors and suppliers and the contributions to charity and community those employees and corporate coffers provide. Nikkei Asian Review reported that SoftBank Group Corp., the Tokyo-based company that owns more than 80 percent of Sprint, plans to end talks with T-Mobile's largest owner, Deutsche Telekom, as early as Tuesday. The report did not cite any sources. The Wall Street Journal also posted a report saying SoftBank is "abandoning its efforts to merge" with T-Mobile, citing "people familiar with the matter."

A third report contradicted the others. CNBC cited unidentified sources to say SoftBank is "not planning to withdraw from the deal." CNBC's report did say the deal is run-

SEE SPRINT, 2A



LOCAL
GRAFFITI, ARSON WERE COVER-UP

An employee at a south Kansas City church has been charged with arson and vandalism in order to conceal a theft. 4A

BUSINESS
KCI PROJECT GETS GENEROUS GIFT

Burns & McDonnell, a Kansas City engineering firm, has donated \$20,000 to the campaign for a new terminal at KCI. 6A

RUSSIA PROBE

Mueller charges 3 former Trump campaign officials



ALEX BRANDON AP

Paul Manafort made his way through television cameras after leaving Federal District Court in Washington on Monday. President Donald Trump's former campaign chairman pleaded not guilty to charges of conspiracy to launder money and other counts.

BY MATT ZAPOTOSKY, ROSALIND S. HELDERMAN, CAROL D. LEONNIG AND SPENCER S. HSU
Washington Post

WASHINGTON

Special Counsel Robert S. Mueller III on Monday revealed charges against three former Trump campaign officials - including onetime campaign chairman Paul Manafort - marking the first criminal allegations to come from probes into possible Russian influence in U.S. political affairs. The charges are striking for their breadth, touching all levels of the Trump campaign and exploring the possible personal, financial wrongdoing of those involved, as well as what appeared to be a concerted effort by one campaign official to arrange a meeting with Russian officials. One of the three charged, former Trump foreign policy adviser George Papadopoulos, admitted to making a false statement to FBI investigators who asked about his contacts



The National Herald - Greek Language Daily

George Papadopoulos

with a foreigner claiming to have high-level Russian connections. Manafort and longtime business partner Rick Gates, meanwhile, were charged in a 12-count indictment with conspiracy to launder money, making false statements and other charges in connection with their work advising a Russia-friendly political party in Ukraine. The investigation, which the



SUSAN WALSH AP

Rick Gates

FBI began last year but escalated significantly with Mueller's appointment in May, has taken a heavy toll on the Trump administration, repeatedly putting the president on the defensive as reports have emerged about the work the special counsel team is doing. With Monday's revelations, a week that otherwise might have been spent

SEE CHARGES, 3A

FACING CHARGES

PAUL MANAFORT: LOBBYIST, LAWYER AND POLITICAL CONSULTANT

- The Trump campaign hired Manafort in March 2016 but he stepped down under pressure in August 2016.
- Manafort did political lobbying from 2006 to 2014 for a pro-Russia political party in Ukraine and is accused of laundering more than \$18 million, not reporting foreign bank accounts, working as an unregistered foreign agent and making false statements to the Treasury Department.

RICK GATES: MANAFORT'S "RIGHT-HAND MAN"

- Gates became a deputy campaign manager for Trump and stayed on after Manafort stepped down.
- He owned or controlled corporate entities that prosecutors said became part of Manafort's scheme to launder money and avoid taxes.

GEORGE PAPADOPOULOS: ENTERED THE 2016 PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN AS A FOREIGN POLICY ADVISER FOR TWO SEPARATE GOP CANDIDATES

- After serving as Ben Carson's foreign policy adviser, he worked on the Trump campaign.
- He admitted lying to the FBI on Jan. 27 while it was investigating Russian interference with the election.

MORE INSIDE

Democratic power lobbyist Tony Podesta steps down in wake of indictments, 3A

ANALYSIS

Mueller's first indictments send message to Trump

BY PETER BAKER
New York Times

WASHINGTON

Shortly after his former campaign chairman marched into an FBI office to face criminal charges Monday, President Donald Trump took to Twitter to dismiss their relevance: "There is NO COLLUSION!" Yet even as his message went out to more than 41 million followers, news emerged that

authorities were unsealing another case that described how a young foreign policy adviser spent months seeking to connect Trump's campaign with Russians offering "dirt" on Hillary Clinton. The first charges filed by Robert Mueller, the special counsel, did not implicate Trump but collectively amounted to a political body blow to a president who has spent months insisting that Mueller's investigation was nothing more

than a "witch hunt" based on a "hoax" invented by Democrats and the news media. The indictment of Paul Manafort, the former Trump campaign chairman, suggested that the president's top lieutenant for much of last year was a highly paid agent for pro-Russian foreign interests. And the guilty plea extracted from George Papadopoulos, the foreign policy adviser, confirmed the second known attempt by Trump's team to tap Moscow for damaging information on Clinton, coming months before his son Donald Trump Jr. met with a Russian lawyer for the same purpose.

SEE TRUMP, 3A

CUSTOMER SERVICE

To subscribe or report delivery issues,
877-962-7827 or [kansascity.com/customer-service](#)

Business
Classified
Comics

6A
6B
7B

Lotteries
Obituaries
Opinion

2A
8A
10A

Puzzles
Sports
TV

8B
1B
9B



7 04113 01050 4